

ABSTRACT

[0068] A wireless network [100] includes a number of first wireless terminals configured to operate as cluster heads [110] by communicating with at least one other cluster head over a relatively long range backbone link [115]. Each one of the first wireless terminals includes a backbone transceiver. The backbone transceivers may operate in a first frequency range. At least one second wireless terminal is configured to operate as a cluster member [120] by communicating with an associated cluster head over a local link. Each one of the second wireless terminals includes a cluster transceiver. The cluster transceivers may operate in a second frequency range that is different from the first frequency range of the backbone transceivers. At least one of the first and second wireless terminals includes both a backbone transceiver and a cluster transceiver.